Digital Media Developers Group
April 7, 2005 Meeting Notes

Old Business

ITAB report: Kay Dinolfo

Representatives at MODOT presented information to the ITAB on their project management methodology, under the direction of a project management office.

The Security Committee reported that there had been a hacking incident recently on a state Web site that was secured using only 40-bit encryption. The committee reminded everyone that the state standard for Web encryption is 128-bit unless there is a business reason to go lower. If an agency needs to provide a lower level of encryption, they must seek a variance from the Architecture Review Committee.

OIT and OA/DIS have been re-formed into the Information Technology Services Division in OA.

Agencies have been discussing document retention strategies as they apply to software licenses. Please check with your agency general counsel for direction as to how and what to retain in your agency.

OA now has an online job application. There was some discussion about whether agencies will need to provide computer workstations for prospective job seekers.

Accessibility Recap: Kevin Lanahan

The guidelines are available for DMD review at http://oa.mo.gov/dmd/sandbox. All DMD members are encouraged to review them and note any errors or unreasonableness. These will be submitted to ITAB after they are reviewed, discussed and approved by DMD.

Search Engine: Ron Thomas

The search engine has to be bid out and a contract awarded before the end of the fiscal year. A group of DMD members has put together the technical specs and OA Purchasing should let the RFP out next week. The bid probably will be open for three weeks, and the winner should deliver the goods within 30 days after that.

New Business

Assistive Technology Devices: Roselie Backer-Thompson, MATC

Roselie showed some alternative keyboards and pointing devices that people with either limited mobility but good motor control or people with good range of motion but poor motor control can use to navigate the web. All of these merely replace the traditional keyboard or mouse, so there is not a technological issue with web development.

Then she showed how she could navigate the web using voice controls, using Dragon Naturally Speaking software. Her clients have reported no difficulty with most state web pages, but she showed the group an example (Disney.com) that she could not navigate at all.

Power-up Conference

Roselie also invited all the DMD members to attend the morning opening session of the Power-Up conference on April 18 at Tan-Tar-A. More information is available at http://www.at.mo.gov/Powerup2005/powerup.shtm. Registration is required.

Agency Projects/ Open Discussion

The CSS class at MOTEC got good reviews and seemed to address the issue of how to use CSS effectively.

The Community Calendar contract has been cancelled. DMD will need to begin looking at creating a calendar using the same approach we used for the newsfeeds.

MOREnet is planning to take another look at PHP. We should not expect any decisions on this anytime soon, though.